

Essex County Educational Services Commission is thriving under her leadership. I know my fellow House Members join me in wishing Dr. Young continued success in her career with the Essex County Educational Services Commission. To have a building named after her is a well deserved honor and a fitting tribute to Dr. Jacqueline A. Young, Educator Extraordinaire.

**HONORING PRESTON A. ENGLERT
AFTER 25 YEARS OF SERVICE TO
THE NATIONAL KIDNEY FOUNDATION
OF THE NATIONAL CAPITAL AREA**

HON. TOM DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2006

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Preston A. Englert for twenty-five years of service to the National Kidney Foundation of the National Capital Area.

Mr. Englert, President and CEO of the National Kidney Foundation of the National Capital Area, has served at the Foundation since 1981.

Mr. Englert graduated from Louisiana State University in 1970 and attended graduate school at the University of Tulsa and George Washington University. A native of Memphis, Tennessee, Mr. Englert served as the Executive Director of the American Heart Association branches in Tulsa, Oklahoma and Atlanta, Georgia before joining the National Kidney Foundation in 1981. In July of 1986, Mr. Englert became the Vice President of the Foundation and he was named President and Chief Executive Officer in 1999.

The National Kidney Foundation has grown substantially under Mr. Englert's leadership. He is responsible for outreach programs, increased funding, early detection screenings and the expansion of both patient services and public awareness. Mr. Englert is extremely invested in the community, indicated by the numerous accolades he has accumulated over the years. He was named the Active Member of the Year by the Greater Washington Society of Association Executives in 1989. Mr. Englert's passion for helping humanity transcends the boundaries of this community, as he received the "Partnership Award" in 2005 from the National Kidney Foundation, Inc. for work with dialysis patients displaced or affected by hurricane Katrina.

Mr. Englert is a shining example of one man's ability to affect change. His creativity and innovation has turned the National Kidney Foundation into one of the most successful affiliations nationwide. He has dedicated his life to giving a voice to kidney disease patients around the country and he has made a lasting impact over the past twenty-five years. I look forward to Mr. Englert's continued service in the years to come.

I ask my colleagues to join me in applauding Preston A. Englert and congratulating him on this distinguished achievement.

**TRIBUTE TO MR. JOEL M. CARP
ON HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE
JEWISH FEDERATION OF METRO-
POLITAN CHICAGO**

HON. JUDY BIGGERT

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2006

Mrs. BIGGERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute Joel M. Carp on the occasion of his retirement from the Jewish Federation of Chicago. For more than 30 years, Joel has devoted his life and considerable talents to helping the disadvantaged in our community and across the country.

As the Senior Vice President for Community Services and Governmental Relations of the Federation, Joel was the voice of the Federation, both in the community and in the halls of the capitals in Springfield and Washington, D.C. Many were the times that he was a source of guidance and advice for me and my colleagues there, and for that I am grateful.

Joel's contributions to the social service network in Chicago have been enormous. His work with the poor, the sick and the homeless ensured that countless members of our community had access to health and human services in their hour of need.

As a public policy advocate and a writer, Joel has helped to steer local, State, and Federal Governments toward greater social responsibility. He has served on numerous task forces to address the needs of both the homeless and underprivileged children. In addition, he has supervised the Illinois State refugee and immigrant programs. Finally, through his writing and teaching, he has advanced the study and practice of social work.

Mr. Speaker, Joel Carp is truly an outstanding individual whose lifetime of work will continue to benefit communities throughout the Chicago area for generations to come. So, once again, I thank Joel Carp for his service, his humor and his humanity, and I congratulate him on a well-earned retirement.

A TRIBUTE TO KUM-OK KIM

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2006

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Kum-Ok Kim, a distinguished member of the Brooklyn, NY business and civic communities. It behooves us to pay tribute to this outstanding leader and I hope my colleagues will join me in recognizing his impressive accomplishments.

Mr. Kum-Ok Kim was born in Bo-Ryong City, ChungChung Province, Korea. He came to the United States in 1981, and started a fruits and vegetables business at Nostrand Avenue in Brooklyn in 1989. Mr. Kim, a Korean-American citizen, was ordained in 1996.

A member of several community organizations, Mr. Kim held many leadership positions such as: chairman of the board of the ChungChung Province Association of Eastern U.S.A. in 1997; vice president of the Korean Sports Association of New York; chairman of the Supporting Committee for Governor George E. Pataki, and director of the Korean-

American Youth Foundation from 1995 to 2005.

Mr. Kim served 4 years, two terms, as president of the Korean-American Brooklyn Association, New York, Inc., a not for profit (501-c3) community-based organization, which was first established in April 1984, in order to reflect its wider civic role in providing outreach services to families and individuals. As president of the Korean-American Brooklyn Association, New York, Inc., Mr. Kim has been instrumental in assisting not only within the Korean community of Brooklyn, but other communities at large to contribute to the further developing relationships of an enlightened, healthy Korean-American community and culture, and to promote better understanding, friendship and cooperation with other ethnic groups in the greater New York area.

Mr. Kim planned and organized a free citizenship assistance and basic English program for Korean-American Brooklyn residents, developed an assistance program for the Korean-American Teacher Association, created seminars for small business owners that were sponsored by the New York State Attorney General, and developed a relief fund for flood victims in Korea. Every year on Thanksgiving day, under the supervision of the Brooklyn Borough President, Mr. Kim, along with several religious organizations and at least 28 community groups, participates in feeding the homeless at a help center and in the Brooklyn Toy Drive for Brooklyn Borough President's children's Christmas party.

Mr. Kim has been the recipient of numerous awards for his contributions to his community including citations from the Brooklyn Borough President and a State Senator Commemoration Award, and the Korean-American Community Service Awards.

Mr. Kim is a dedicated, loving husband and father. He resides with his wife Monica, sons Daniel and Joseph and daughters Tailor and Do-Kyung.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that it is incumbent on this body to recognize the accomplishments of Kum-Ok Kim as he offers his talents and philanthropic services for the betterment of our community.

Mr. Speaker, Kum-Ok Kim's selfless service has continuously demonstrated a level of altruistic dedication that makes him most worthy of our recognition today.

**IN HONOR OF LT. PATRICK K.
DOWDELL**

HON. ANTHONY D. WEINER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2006

Mr. WEINER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Patrick K. Dowdell, upon his graduation from West Point as a second lieutenant.

Patrick K. Dowdell is a resident of Breezy Point, Queens, who has been a volunteer with the Point Breezy Volunteer Fire Department, Habitat for Humanity and Meals on Wheels. Along with his father Kevin Dowdell, a lieutenant at Rescue Company 4 of the New York City Fire Department, Patrick contacted my office in 2000 to request a nomination to West Point's Class of 2005. Despite my nomination, and a valiant effort by Lt. Kevin Dowdell to

hand deliver the required documents for his son's application to West Point admissions officials, Patrick was waitlisted and instead attended Iona College.

Patrick K. Dowdell proved to be both resilient and determined, and sought admission to West Point the following year while he excelled at Iona and was elected as Freshman Class Representative in the student government. Supported by teachers, neighbors and friends offering praise and letters of support, Patrick again asked for my nomination, with his father leading the charge.

When the dust of September 11, 2001 settled, Patrick Dowdell and his family learned that Lt. Kevin Dowdell was last seen entering the burning towers to help his fellow citizens and had been lost. Patrick Dowdell, as determined as ever to serve his country and make his dad proud, volunteered in the clean up efforts and continued to pursue his dream of attending West Point.

Patrick K. Dowdell was designated as my principle nominee in 2001 and was a member of the 2006 West Point graduating class. In President Bush's commencement speech last month to the first class to enter the academy after the attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, Patrick had the honor of being the only cadet singled out for praise by the President. In the words of the President, "We live in freedom because young Americans like Patrick and all the cadets here today have stepped forward to serve."

Patrick is now looking forward to serving his country and continuing to honor his father's memory. He also serves as a source of encouragement to his younger brother James Dowdell, who has followed in their father's footsteps by joining the New York City Fire Department, serving in Ladder 174 and providing support to his proud mother, Rose Ellen Dowdell.

Therefore, on behalf of the United States House of Representatives, I congratulate Patrick K. Dowdell upon the completion of his studies at West Point and upon his commission as a second lieutenant.

A TRIBUTE TO MARTHA RODRIGUEZ-TORRES

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2006

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Martha Rodriguez-Torres, a distinguished member of the Brooklyn, NY, community. It behooves us to pay tribute to this outstanding leader and I hope my colleagues will join me in recognizing her impressive accomplishments.

Martha Rodriguez-Torres was born and raised in Brownsville, Brooklyn and is one of five children born to the late Carmen Rodriguez. In spite of being raised in a one-parent household, her mother made certain that education and community involvement were a priority in her home. Martha has her bachelor of science from Boston College, a master of science and a professional diploma from Long Island University and was a member of the Harvard University Principal's Institute.

After working in several school districts throughout the city, Martha became the prin-

cipal of PS 156, the Waverly School of the Arts where she accepted the challenge of leading a low performing school with only 17 percent of the children reading at or above grade level. Today, the school is one that stands as a model for others. The school has become a nurturing environment for both students and teachers and the reading scores at the school have more than tripled.

Martha is respected by both her superiors and peers and has served as a mentor principal and was a member of the Chancellor's Distinguished Faculty, where she trained new principals. Martha worked with Hunter College in the design and implementation of a new program for the training of future administrators.

It is through Martha's dedication, tenacity and courage that she has been able to make a positive impact on her school community and it is because of these very qualities that she now serves as a local instructional superintendent in Region 5 as well as the community superintendent for Community School District 19.

Martha is to be applauded for refusing to let her humble beginnings be an impediment for success, not forgetting from where she came and for continuing to serve those with challenging circumstances.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that it is incumbent on this body to recognize the accomplishments of Martha Rodriguez-Torres as she offers her talents and philanthropic services for the betterment of our local and national communities.

Mr. Speaker, Martha Rodriguez-Torres's selfless service has continuously demonstrated a level of altruistic dedication that makes her most worthy of our recognition today.

TRIBUTE TO THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF FILIPINO MIGRATION TO THE UNITED STATES

HON. KENDRICK B. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2006

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I want to take this opportunity to pay tribute to the more than three million Filipino-Americans and Filipino immigrants across the United States on the occasion of the 100th Anniversary of Filipino Migration to the United States. This is a significant milestone in the storied tradition of Filipinos in our Nation ever since the first fifteen farm workers, called sakadas, were recruited by the Hawaiian Sugar Planters Association, arriving in Hawaii on December 20, 1906. They were to become the precursors to millions of other contract workers, who soon came to build America in the succeeding years.

It was in 1919 that Filipino leader Pablo Manlapit organized the first labor union to demand higher wages and better working conditions for the farm workers of Hawaii. He was to be joined by other Asian farm workers, especially those coming from Japan. Though in 1920, some 12,000 farm workers from the sugar plantations were cruelly evicted and thrown out of work; their rugged determination and gritty character typified their conviction that America must live by its creed of equal opportunity and simple justice for all.

The downtrodden and the disenfranchised—these defined the miserable conditions to which those first immigrants were mercilessly subjected. What better way to memorialize those hardy spirits than to invoke their courage under fire during this Centennial of their epic journey to self-hood and recognition. They came to forge a better life and contribute to the building of America in Hawaii's sugar cane and pineapple fields, in the canneries of Alaska, and throughout the verdant farm lands of California and other west coast States.

In his stirring novel, *America is in the Heart*, Carlos Bulosan, the Filipino writer par excellence, described the first Filipino immigrants' abject exclusion from American society when he wrote: "I know deep in my heart that I am an exile in America . . . I feel like a criminal running away from a crime I did not commit. And this crime is that I am a Filipino in America." Despite this inglorious past, their pioneering efforts and resilient spirit were drawn by their genuine belief in America's spirit of idealism as the land of opportunity and promise.

I am confident that under the aegis of this Centennial, America will join Filipino-Americans in recognizing the untold sacrifices of the early Filipino migrants whose faith in God and whose work ethic sustained them in their ordeal. In converging this celebration with the indomitable spirit of those pioneers, we hope to be enlightened and enriched by the messages they wrote through their silent struggles to be recognized and appreciated. It is on this historic occasion that I congratulate the National Federation of Filipino American Associations (NaFFAA), the Philippine-American Federation of South Florida (PhilAmFed) and other bonafide groups for their steadfast efforts in sensitizing us to the contributions that Filipino immigrants gave and continue to give to buttressing America's stature as the envy of world today.

Filipino-Americans in my District, and millions of others across this great Nation, may take heart in Mr. Bulosan's prophetic words: "America is not a land of one race or one class of men. We are all Americans that have toiled and suffered and known oppression and defeat . . . America is not merely a land or an institution. America is in the hearts of men that died for freedom; it is also in the eyes of men that are building a new world. America is a warning to those who would try to falsify the ideals of free men. All of us, from the first Adams to the last Filipino, native born or alien, educated or illiterate—We are America!"

Indeed, this Centennial is a proud reminder of the nobility and quiet dignity of Filipino Americans whose predecessors migrated to America 100 years ago, paving the way for countless others.

A TRIBUTE TO MIGUEL A FELICIANO

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2006

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Miguel A. Feliciano, a distinguished member of the business and civic communities. It behooves us to pay tribute to this outstanding leader and I hope by colleagues will join me in recognizing his impressive accomplishments.